

STATE OF WISCONSIN
Department of Health Services
Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

Date: March 15, 2012
Information Memo DMHSAS 2012-01

To: DMHSAS Listserv

For: Area Administrators/Assistant Area Administrators
Bureau Directors/Section Chiefs
County Departments of Community Programs Directors
County Departments of Developmental Disabilities Services Directors
County Departments of Human Services Directors
County Departments of Social Services Directors
County Mental Health Coordinators
Tribal Chairpersons / Human Services Facilitators

From: Linda Harris, Administrator
Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

Subject: Consumer Affairs Coordinator in the Bureau of Prevention Treatment and Recovery

I am pleased to announce Faith Boersma as the new Consumer Affairs Coordinator in the Bureau of Prevention, Treatment and Recovery (BPTR), in the Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (DMHSAS). Faith brings to this position her own experience as a person in recovery from mental illness and substance abuse and as a recipient of services, in both public and private systems, for the past fifteen years.

Faith is a Certified Peer Specialist who holds a Bachelor's Degree in English and Spanish from the UW-Stevens Point. She has worked for several years with the Fox Valley chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness. There she facilitated peer support groups; mentored peer education classes; presented her story to schools, churches, and other community organizations; and worked as a liaison to the county drug treatment court. She has also worked as a consumer consultant in partnership with administrative staff and providers at ThedaCare Behavioral Healthcare on various projects focused on systems improvements.

For the past several months, Faith has worked in the Substance Abuse section of DMHSAS as a contractor from the UW-Madison Department of Psychiatry. In this role she staffed the State Council on Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse, assisted with coordinating the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Training Conference, and worked on numerous priority initiatives such as Motivational Interviewing, Trauma-Informed Care, and Recovery Coaching.

Faith is committed to keeping the voice of the consumer central to the systems transformation processes in the state of Wisconsin. Faith's vision is to bring together consumers and policy-makers in a mutually respectful manner, facilitating a connection that will allow for true transformation informed by the needs of the people the systems serve. She has a passion for the development of service delivery systems that fully integrate the utilization of peer providers, and that all of these systems be co-occurring capable.

Faith will bring a unique perspective and renewed energy to our BPTR and DMHSAS and the position of Consumer Affairs Liaison. Please join me in welcoming Faith to this position.

Faith's contact information:
Faith Boersma
1 West Wilson St.
Room 951
Madison, WI 53703
608-261-6746
faith.boersma@wisconsin.gov

REGIONAL OFFICE CONTACT:

Area Administrators

CENTRAL OFFICE CONTACT:

Kenya Bright
Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services
Bureau of Prevention Treatment and Recovery
1 West Wilson Street, Room 951
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7851
Telephone: (608) 267-9392
Fax: (608) 267-7793
E-mail : kenya.bright@wisconsin.gov

MEMO WEBSITE:

DLTC/DMHSAS Memo Series web page
http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/dsl_info/index.htm

The Division information and numbered memos are distributed electronically via a Listserv. The Listserv is free, but does require an active e-mail address. The memos are posted in both PDF and html formats.

DLTC and DMHSAS Memo Series E-mail Subscription Services web page.
http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/dsl_info/signup.htm